

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A jointing system for supporting a plurality of cladding panels relative to a building or building frame, the panels having slots extending along ~~the~~ edges thereof, the jointing system including:

an first elongate support member ~~substantially H-shaped in cross-section~~ and having:

_____ a longer inner flange for fastening to the building or building frame,

_____ a shorter outer flange, and

_____ a web ~~the inner flange being connected by a web to the longer~~ inner flange ~~ato the~~ shorter outer flange to form an elongate recess on each side of the web for receiving sealing means therein, the web being substantially centrally disposed relative to side edges of at least one of the inner flange and the outer flange such that the elongate support member is substantially H-shaped in cross section; and

_____ sealing means received in at least one elongate recess,

wherein ~~by~~ when a cladding panel is supported relative to the building or building frame by the jointing system, the outer flange is received in one of the slots along the edges of the cladding panel and wherein the sealing means cooperates with the panel to substantially seal a ~~the~~ space behind the cladding panel against the ingress of moisture.

2. (Currently Amended) The A-jointing system of ~~as claimed in claim 1,~~
wherein the first elongate support member element is an aluminum extrusion.

3. (Currently Amended) The A-jointing system of ~~as claimed in claim 1,~~
wherein the sealing means is a beading of sealant.

4. (Currently Amended) The A-jointing system of ~~as claimed in claim 1,~~
wherein the sealing means is an elongate gasket located in each elongate recess.

5. (Currently Amended) The A-jointing system of ~~as claimed in claim 4,~~
wherein ~~the~~ each elongate gasket includes longitudinally extending rib means and a
longitudinally extending end portion such that ~~on assembly~~ when the outer flange is
received in the one of the slots along the edges of the cladding panel, the rib
means resiliently engages an ~~the~~ inner surface of the cladding panels and the
longitudinally extending end portion resiliently engages ~~the~~ an inner edge of the
cladding panel adjacent the slots.

6. (Currently Amended) The A-jointing system of ~~as claimed in claim 1,~~
wherein the ~~web is substantially centrally disposed and the~~ longer inner flange
extends at each side thereof beyond the ends of the shorter outer flange sufficiently

to allow screws to be fixed therethrough for fastening the support member to the building or building frame.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~-jointing system ~~of as claimed in claim 1,~~ and ~~further~~ including a second ~~other~~-elongate support member substantially H-shaped ~~H-shaped~~ in cross-section and having a longer inner flange for fastening to the building or building frame, the inner flange being connected by a web to a shorter outer flange to form an elongate recess on each side of the web for receiving the sealing means therein;

wherein the distance between ~~the~~ outer surfaces of the flanges of the second ~~is other~~-elongate support member is less than the distance between ~~the~~ outer surfaces of the flanges of the first elongate support member ~~defined in claim 4,~~ such that when the first and second elongate support members orthogonally abut with the outer surface of the longer inner flange of the second ~~is other~~-elongate support member resting on an ~~the~~ inner surface of the longer inner flange of the first elongate surface member ~~defined in claim 1,~~ the outer surfaces of the shorter outer flanges of the first and second elongate support members are substantially coplanar.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of fastening a plurality of cladding panels to a building or building frame, the panels having slots extending along ~~the~~ edges thereof, the method including: ~~[[—]]~~

fastening to the building or building frame a jointing system, the jointing system having an elongate support member ~~substantially H-shaped in cross-section~~ and having a longer inner flange for fastening to the building or building frame, the inner flange being connected by a web to a shorter outer flange to form an elongate recess on each side of the web for receiving sealing means therein, the web being substantially centrally disposed relative to ends of at least one of the inner and outer flange such that the elongate support member is substantially H-shaped in cross section, and

supporting a cladding panel relative to the building or building frame with the outer flange of the support member received in one of the slots ~~along the edge of the cladding panel~~, and
_____ wherein the sealing means cooperate with the panel to substantially seal a ~~the~~ space behind the cladding panel against the ingress of moisture.

9. (Currently Amended) The A ~~method of fastening a plurality of cladding panels to a building or building frame as claimed in claim 8~~, wherein the sealing means is an elongate gasket pre-located in each recess.

10. (Currently Amended) The A ~~method of fastening a plurality of cladding panels to a building or building frame as claimed in claim 8~~, and further including:
_____ -inserting a beading of sealant in each recess.